

## **Community Service Week: October 16-22**

Community Service Week is being held in honor of Montgomery County's 25th Anniversary of Community Service Day, an annual day of service throughout Montgomery County. The goal of Community Service Week is to increase the culture of serving and giving in the County, to engage new people in service and recognize those who are already serving while meeting needs in our community.

Our goal this year is to engage 25,000 volunteers throughout the week! The week will kick off at the World of Montgomery Festival in Wheaton (October 16) and conclude with a large celebration of service in Downtown Silver Spring (October 22). During the week (October 16-22) there will be service projects and volunteer fairs to engage volunteers throughout Montgomery County. Many of the projects will provide students with the opportunity to earn Student Service Learning hours.

## How to get involved:

- O Host a project at your school on October 22<sup>nd</sup> (or anytime during the week of October 16). This could be anything from a clothing drive, school clean-up, to starting a mentoring program. All project ideas, big and small, are encouraged as long as they are meeting a need you have identified! You could plan a project as the PTA, work with the Principal, or work with student groups!
- o Invite new volunteers to join you and take part in "regular" opportunities (especially if you are looking to get more people involved with regularly helping with your PTA).
- If you already are volunteering that week or have a project planned, tell us about it!

Once you know what project(s) your group will do, go to <a href="www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer</a>, click on the Community Service Day link, and then click on the link to the "Community Service Week Project Form" to submit your project idea via our online form!



In honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Community Service Day, we kicked off the Pledge 25 campaign on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday asking volunteers to serve 25 hours in and around Montgomery County between January 17<sup>th</sup> and October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Are you ready to volunteer 25 hours or are you already volunteering?

Go to the Montgomery County Volunteer Center's website, <a href="www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer">www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer</a>, and click on the Pledge 25 link at the top of the page. Sign-up, then it's out to the community to volunteer! There is a printable tracking tool to help you record when you volunteer. When you have completed 25 hours, you can go back to the website and fill out the completion survey, or we will e-mail it to you in September. Thank you volunteering!